ENGLISH
User's Guide

Creative Inspire GD580

DTS DISCLAIMER

DTS Digital Surround^{TM} is a discrete 5.1 digital audio format available on CD, LD and DVD software. **CD and LD software cannot be decoded internally in most CD, LD or DVD players.** When SPDIF output is selected on the disk players and a DTS encoded software is played back through the analog outputs of the CD, LD or DVD player, excessive noise will be exhibited. To avoid possible damage to the audio system, proper precautions should be taken by the consumer if the analog outputs are connected directly to an amplification system. To enjoy DTS Digital Surround playback, an external 5.1 channel DTS Digital Surround decoder system such as Creative Inspire GD580 must be connected to the digital output of (SPDIF, AES/EBU or TosLink) of the CD, LD or DVD player.

Safety & Regulatory Information

The following sections contain notices for various countries:

Notice for the USA

FCC Part 15: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, this notice is not a guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the distance between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment to an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/ TV technician.

CAUTION: To comply with the limits for the Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules, this device must be installed with computer equipment certified to comply with the Class B limits.

All cables used to connect the computer and peripherals must be shielded and grounded. Operation with non-certified computers or non-shielded cables may result in interference to radio or television reception.

Modifications

Any changes or modifications not expressly approved by the grantee of this device could void the user's authority to operate the device.

Notice for Canada

This apparatus complies with the Class B limits for radio interference as specified in the Canadian Department of Communications Radio Interference Regulations.

Cet appareil est conforme aux normes de CLASSE "B" d'interference radio tel que spe'cifie' par le Ministère Canadien des Communications dans les règlements d'interfèrence radio.


WARNING: To prevent fire or shock hazard, do not expose this appliance to rain or moisture.

Important Notice

The serial number for your Creative Inspire GD580 is located at the back of the Decoder. Please write this number down and keep it in a secure area. This is for your security.

Compliance

This product conforms to the following Council Directive:
EMC Directive 89/336/ EEC ammended by Directive 92/31/EEC and 93/68/ EEC
LVD 73/23/EEC ammended by Directive 93/68/EEC
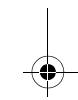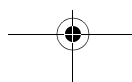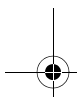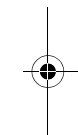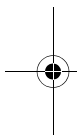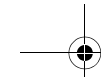
IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Read Instructions

Read all safety and operating instructions before operating the product.

Retain Instructions

Keep all safety and operating instructions for future reference.

Heed Warnings

Take note of all warnings on the product and in the operating instructions.

Follow Instructions

Follow all operating and usage instructions.

Cleaning

Unplug this product from the power source before cleaning. Do not use liquid or aerosol cleaners. Use a damp cloth for cleaning.

Attachments

Do not use attachments or accessories not recommended by Creative as they may cause hazards.

Water and Moisture

Do not use this product near any water source or water hazard.

Placement

Place the product on a stable surface or recommended stand, or sold with the product. Otherwise, the product may fall and cause injury to a person, and damage to the product. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for mounting the product.

Ventilation

To ensure reliable operation and to prevent overheating, do not block or cover ventilation openings and slots with fabrics or impermeable material. Do not place in a built-in installation such as a bookcase or rack unless there is proper ventilation or Creative's instructions have been adhered to.

Heat

Do not place this product anywhere near heat sources such as radiators, stoves, and other products (including amplifiers) that produce heat.

Power Sources

This speaker system is specifically designed for operation within the electrical range(s) specified on the provided power adapter and use outside of this range shall be at your own risk. Please contact your local electric utility company if you have any questions about the electrical voltage at your intended location of use.

Polarization

The product may be equipped with a polarised alternating-current line plug, a safety feature. As one blade is wider than the other, this plug can only fit into the power outlet in one way. If you cannot insert the plug fully into the outlet, reverse the plug. If the plug still fails to fit, contact your electrician to replace your obsolete outlet. Do not force the plug into the outlet.

Power-cord Protection

Arrange the power-cords to minimise the risk of damage from traffic or other hazards. Pay particular attention to the area near the plug head, the power source outlet and the connection from the product.

Lightning

Unplug the product from the power source during lightning storms or if unused for long periods of time. This will prevent lightning and power-line surge damage to the product.

Overloading

Do not overload wall outlets, extension cords, or integral power circuits as this can result in a risk of fire or electric shock.

Object and Liquid Entry

Never push any object through the product's openings, as this can result in a fire, electric shock or damage. Do not spill liquids on the product.

Servicing

Do not attempt to service the product yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.

Damage Requiring Service

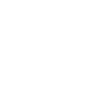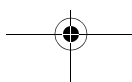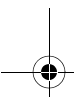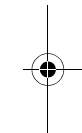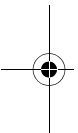Unplug the product from the power source. Call for servicing when:
a) the power-supply cord or plug is damaged.
b) objects have fallen through or liquids have been spilled into the product's openings.
c) the product has been exposed to rain or water.
d) the product does not operate normally when following the operating instructions
e) the product behaves differently.
f) the product has been dropped or damaged in any way.

Replacement Parts

When replacing parts, check that the service technician has used replacement parts specified by Creative or have the same characteristics as the original parts. Unauthorised substitutions may result in fire, electric shock, or other hazards.

Safety Check

After servicing or repairing the product, get the service technician to perform safety checks to be sure that the product is working properly.
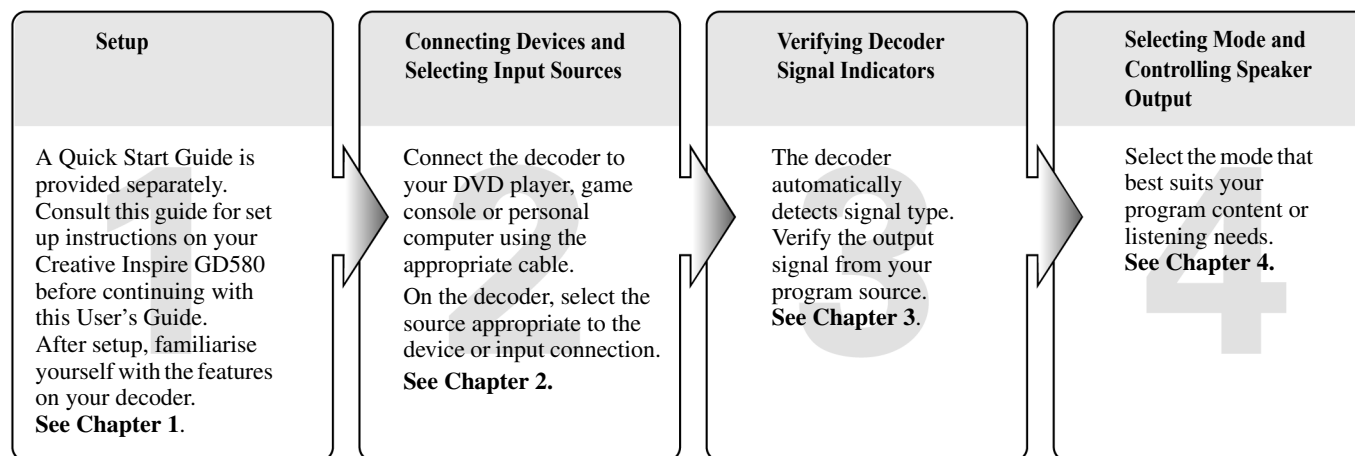
Contents

Introduction

Thank you for purchasing Creative Inspire GD580. With audio quality that rivals a component home theater system, Creative Inspire GD580 gives you the full potential of Dolby Digital™ and DTS® multichannel sound from your DVD player, game console or personal computer. The system decodes Dolby Digital, Dolby Surround, Pro Logic II and DTS program material, letting you enjoy the best in today's media software.

Using Your Creative Inspire GD580

Using your Creative Inspire GD580 involves four basic steps: Setup, Connecting Devices and Selecting Input Sources, Verifying Decoder Signal Indicators, and Selecting Mode and Controlling Speaker Output. Refer to the chart below to locate information about each step.

Setup	Connecting Devices and Selecting Input Sources	Verifying Decoder Signal Indicators	Selecting Mode and Controlling Speaker Output
A Quick Start Guide is provided separately. Consult this guide for set up instructions on your Creative Inspire GD580 before continuing with this User's Guide. After setup, familiarise yourself with the features on your decoder. **See Chapter 1**.	Connect the decoder to your DVD player, game console or personal computer using the appropriate cable. On the decoder, select the source appropriate to the device or input connection. **See Chapter 2.**	The decoder automatically detects signal type. Verify the output signal from your program source. **See Chapter 3**.	Select the mode that best suits your program content or listening needs. **See Chapter 4.**

1

Decoder and Remote Control Functions

This chapter describes and shows you the location of the various control buttons, knobs and connectors on your Decoder and Remote Control.

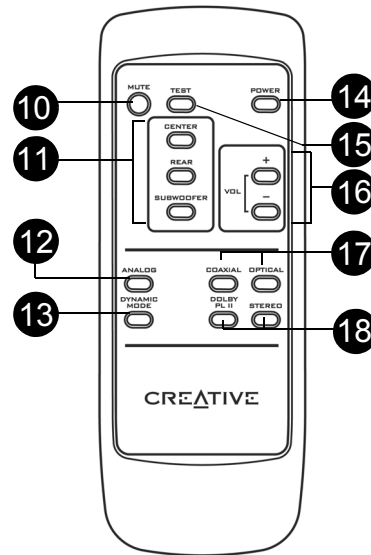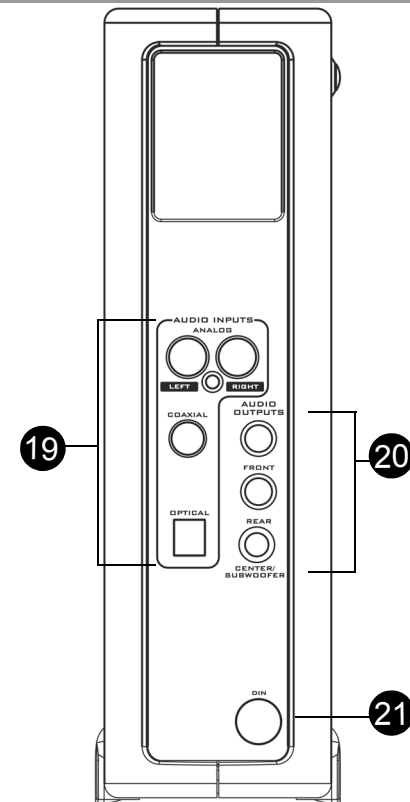*Figure 1-1:   Decoder Front Panel View*

Figure 1-2:   Remote Control View.

Figure 1-3:   Decoder Rear Panel View.
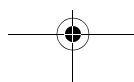
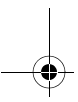*1-1 Decoder and Remote Control Functions*

Turning On Your Decoder

The Standby LED (Light Emitting Diode), below the POWER button, turns red when the power adapter is connected to a power outlet or when the power supply is turned on. Press the **Power** button to turn on the Decoder. The default input is Optical and the default mode is Stereo. If you change any settings, they are retained as long as the decoder is in Standby mode and not turned off.
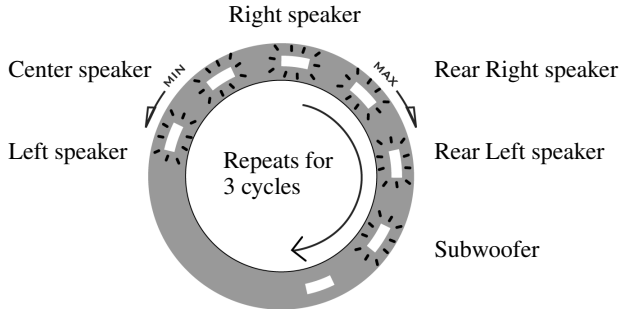
Decoder and Remote Control Key Functions

Figure 1-1, Figure 1-2 and Figure 1-3 on page 1-1 shows you the location of the various knobs, buttons and connectors on your Decoder and Remote Control.

Decoder/Remote Control	Function
1 POWER button **14**	Turns on the decoder or places it in Standby mode. When the system is turned on, the Standby LED remains off. When the system is on Standby mode, the Standby LED turns red. When you turn on the system for the first time, these are the default settings: ❑ Audio Input: Optical (the Optical LED lights up) ❑ Mode: Stereo (the Stereo LED lights up) ❑ Volume level: Medium (the 3 left most LEDs around the Volume knob light up). If you change any settings, they are retained as long as the decoder is in Standby mode and not turned off.
2 DIGITAL button **17** Coaxial and Optical buttons	Selects the type of digital input from the Optical and Coaxial connectors. Press this button to select Optical or Coaxial. The Optical or Coaxial LED lights up.
3 MODE button **18** DOLBY PL II/ STEREO buttons	Press this button to select Stereo, Dolby Pro Logic II Movie or Dolby Pro Logic II Music. The Stereo, Dolby Pro Logic II Movie or Dolby Pro Logic II Music LED lights up.
4a DOLBY PL II/ STEREO LED	The Stereo, Dolby Pro Logic II Movie or Dolby Pro Logic II Music LED illuminates whenever the MODE button is pressed.

Decoder/Remote Control	Function
4b DTS/DOLBY DIGITAL LED	The DTS LED illuminates whenever a DTS encoded program material is detected from a digital source. The Dolby Digital LED illuminates automatically whenever a Dolby Digital signal is detected from an optical or coaxial input.
5 SELECT button **11** Center, Rear and Subwoofer buttons	Selects the channels for volume adjustment. Press to select Center, Rear or Subwoofer. The Center, Rear or Subwoofer LED lights up.
6 Headphone jacks	The Creative Inspire GD580 supports the use of up to two sets of headphones using 1/8" (3.5 mm) stereo mini plugs.
7 Infrared receiver	Detects infrared signals from your Remote Control. For reliable Remote Control functionality, do not obstruct this area on the decoder.
8 ANALOG button **12**	Selects the Analog Inputs as the playback source.
9 Volume knob **16** Volume Increase/Decrease buttons	Adjusts the master volume and volume of the selected channel. Turn the knob clockwise to increase the volume level and turn it anti-clockwise to decrease the volume level. The output level of the selected channel should be adjusted to balance with the fixed output of the Front Left and Front Right speakers. The volume may also be adjusted using the remote control.
10 MUTE button	Mutes all audio output from the decoder. Press the button once to mute. The volume LED indicators around the volume knob blink. The number of volume indicators blinking depends on the volume set before muting. To resume audio output, press the MUTE button again. Audio output can also be resumed by turning the volume control knob (9) in either direction.
13 DYNAMIC MODE button (this function is only available on the Remote Control)	The Creative Inspire GD580 is set, by default, to this compressed mode to enable the full dynamic range to be heard at lower volumes, you may uncompress the dynamic range to its full splendor from the remote by pressing the Dynamic Mode button on the Remote Control. The uncompressed mode can only be enabled with the Remote Control. The decoder will acknowledge uncompressed Dynamic Mode by illuminating all of the volume indicators momentarily. Pressing the Dynamic Mode button again enables the compressed Dynamic Mode; the first four volume indicators will light momentarily to acknowledge that the compressed mode is enabled.

1-3 Decoder and Remote Control Functions

Decoder/Remote Control	Function
15 TEST button (this function is only available on the Remote Control)	Activates the "test sound" generator that helps you position your speakers and to balance their relative output. The test sound moves in a circular sequence from the Left speaker, the Center speaker, the Right speaker, then to the Rear Right speaker, Rear Left speaker and Subwoofer. These are indicated by the LEDs on the volume indicator. All functions except for the level controls are disabled while the test sound is running. ***During Test Sequence*** ❑ The test sound lasts three complete cycles. The test output can be stopped at any point by pressing the TEST button again. ❑ Use the test to be sure that each speaker works before deciding on proper speaker connection and placement. ❑ Adjust the level controls for the Center speaker, Subwoofer and Rear speaker using the SELECT button on the Decoder so that each speaker achieves a balanced output level with the Left and Right speakers (which provide a fixed "reference" output level). You can also use the Center, Rear or Subwoofer buutons on the Remote Control. **Note:** Volume levels during the test sequence are lower or higher than during normal operation. You may need to reduce or increase the master volume before resuming normal playback.
19 AUDIO Inputs	Connects the respective audio source cables — Analog stereo input; and coaxial and optical digital inputs — to the corresponding sockets.

Decoder and Remote Control Functions 1-4

Decoder/Remote Control	Function
20 AUDIO Outputs	Connects your speaker system. See the Quick Start Guide provided for more information on connecting your speakers.
21 DIN	For control and power signals. Connects your Subwoofer. **Note:** Do not connect this socket to other devices.

Important Playback Level Warning!

Creative Inspire GD580 is intended for individual or small group listening and can achieve surprisingly high output levels. However, playing heavy-bass program material continuously at overly loud, distorted levels may permanently damage the system's internal fuse. The fuse can be replaced only by a qualified technician. To avoid this inconvenience and a possible non-warranty repair charge, reduce the playback volume when the system shows obvious signs of stress, for example, when it sounds raspy, fuzzy, and/or muddy.

Note: Set the Decoder to Standby mode before unplugging or turning off the power supply.

Connecting Devices and Selecting Input Sources

2
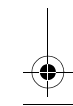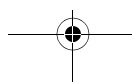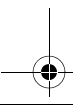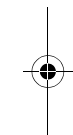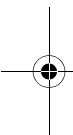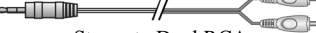
Note: The type of cables supplied may vary in different regions.

Creative Inspire GD580 can be used with many devices — DVD players, game consoles or personal computers. The following charts tell you the correct cables, and corresponding inputs on the decoder, to use for each type of device. The charts are divided according to device type: set-top devices, game consoles and personal computers.
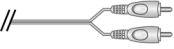
Set-top Device User's Chart

Devices	Cables		Decoder Inputs	Signals	Decoder Input Selection
	From Device	To Decoder			
DVD players MD players CD players VCD players		Optical	OPTICAL	- DTS - Dolby Digital - PCM	Select Optical
		RCA-to-RCA	COAXIAL		Select Coaxial
MP3 players (for example, Creative digital audio players)		Stereo to Dual RCA	ANALOG LEFT RIGHT	Analog	Select Analog

Note: Not all cables are included with the respective devices.
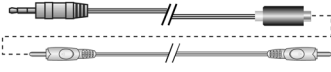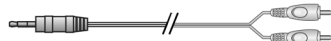
*Dolby Digital signals from audio cards should be in "undecoded" form to allow Creative Inspire GD580 to accurately decode them (see "Personal Computer User's Chart" on page 2-2).

Game Console User's Chart

Devices	Cables		Decoder Inputs	Signals	Decoder Input Selection
	From Device	To Decoder			
- Sony PlayStation® 2 - Microsoft Xbox™* - Nintendo GameCube™		Optical	OPTICAL	- DTS - Dolby Digital - PCM	Select Optical
- Sony PlayStation® 2 - Microsoft Xbox™ - Nintendo GameCube™	From the game console		ANALOG LEFT RIGHT	— Analog Stereo	Select Analog

* For movie DVD playback and Dolby Digital gaming, other accessories may be required.

Personal Computer User's Chart

Devices	Cables		Decoder Inputs	Signals	Decoder Input Selection
	From Device	To Decoder			
Creative Sound Blaster Live 5.1 or Audigy series audio cards (Software DVD)		4 Conductor Miniplug to RCA (female) RCA-to-RCA (male) (Both cables must be used together)	COAXIAL	- DTS - Dolby Digital - PCM	Select Coaxial
2-channel audio cards		Stereo to Dual RCA	ANALOG LEFT RIGHT	- Analog Stereo	Select Analog

Verifying Decoder Signal Indicators

3

The Creative Inspire GD580 decoder automatically detects signal type. The table below shows you the typical output signals used in some common program materials.
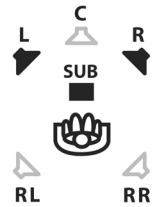
Program Material and Signal Detection Chart

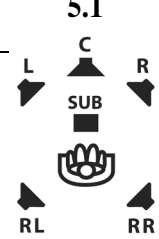| Program Material	Output Signal from Device	Auto Detection
DVDs, CDs or games with DTS bitstream	DTS	DTS
DVDs, CDs or games with Dolby Digital bitstream	Dolby Digital	DOLBY DIGITAL
DVDs with Dolby Surround encoded material carried with a Dolby Digital bitstream	Dolby Surround encoded program material transmitted via Digital inputs (optical or coaxial)	MOVIE, DOLBY DIGITAL
DVDs with Dolby Digital 2.0 encoded material	Dolby Digital 2.0	STEREO, DOLBY DIGITAL
DVDs with DTS 2.0 encoded material	DTS 2.0	STEREO, DTS

4

Selecting Mode and Controlling Speaker Output
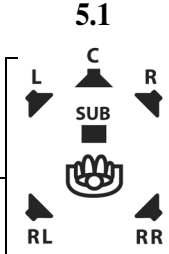
This chapter guides you on the most appropriate setting to select for each connection and signal source.

Stereo	Type Of Incoming Signal Source	Decoder Input	Input Select	Mode select	Speaker Output
This mode plays normal stereo content and also downmixes a 5.1 Dolby Digital and DTS signal through Creative Inspire GD580's left and right front speakers and subwoofer.	Analog Stereo	ANALOG			
	- DTS - Dolby Digital - PCM	OPTICAL			2.1
		COAXIAL			

Dolby Pro Logic II - Movie

	Type Of Incoming Signal Source	Decoder Input	Input Select	Mode select	Speaker Output
Activates Dolby Pro Logic II processing to provide surround sound from encoded stereo sources such as many television broadcasts, VCDs and DVDs.	Analog Stereo	ANALOG (LEFT RIGHT)	ANALOG		
The Movie mode is for use with stereo television shows and all programs encoded in Dolby Surround. The result is enhanced directional sound coming from all the speakers that simulates discrete 5.1-channel sound.	- Dolby Digital - 2-channel PCM	OPTICAL / COAXIAL	DIGITAL OPTICAL / DIGITAL COAXIAL	MOVIE	5.1

Dolby Pro Logic II - Music

	Type Of Incoming Signal Source	Decoder Input	Input Select	Mode select	Speaker Output
Activates Dolby Pro Logic II processing to provide surround sound from encoded stereo sources such as many television broadcasts, VCDs and DVDs. The Music mode is for use with any stereo music recordings, and provides a wide and deep audio environment.	Analog 2-channel	ANALOG LEFT RIGHT	ANALOG ANALOG	MODE MUSIC	**5.1** L C R SUB RL RR
	- Dolby Digital - 2-channel PCM	OPTICAL COAXIAL	OPTICAL DIGITAL COAXIAL DIGITAL		

Controlling Speaker Output

When playing back multichannel programs like Dolby Digital or DTS soundtracks, you may want to set the speaker output level to suit your sitting position relative to the speakers. This is to obtain the desired (balanced) output required for multichannel playback from all speakers.

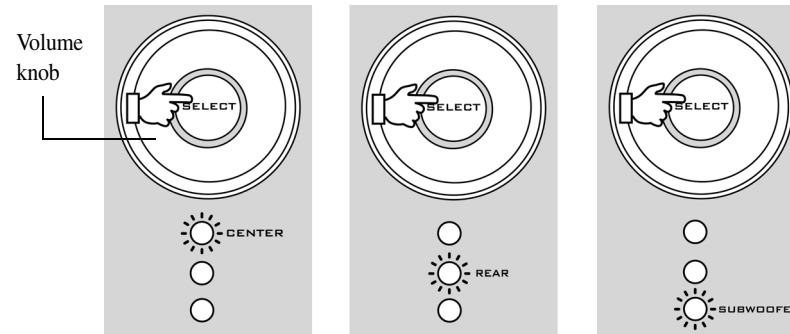1. Press the SELECT button on the decoder until the LED of the channel you want lights up.

Figure 4-1:   Selecting the channel volume.

2. Turn the volume knob clockwise to increase the selected channel volume or counterclockwise to decrease the selected channel volume.

    The LED indicators on the front of the decoder (see Figure 4-2) indicate the volume selected.
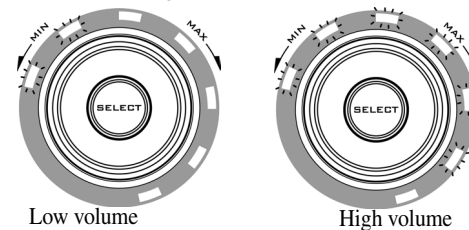   The more lit indicators there are, the higher the volume.

Low volume   High volume

Figure 4-2:   LED volume indicators.

If the volume setting in any of the three channel levels — Center, Rear or Subwoofer — remains unchanged for 2–3 seconds, the master volume control resumes.

Note: The volume is set relative to the front speakers.

A   Audio Technology Reference

This chapter describes and defines the various technologies used in your Creative Inspire GD580.
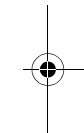
Dolby Digital

Dolby Digital delivers five discrete full-range channels (left, center, right, left surround and right surround) plus a separate Low Frequency Effects (LFE) channel. Many soundtracks on the latest generation DVDs and High Definition Televisions (HDTVs) are encoded with Dolby Digital technology. The Dolby Digital indicator lights up automatically when a 5.1 Dolby Digital program source (such as a DVD player or game console) is playing.

Note: Not all media in a DVD will be 5.1-channel encoded. On many DVDs, only the main movie program will be available in 5.1-channel sound. Other supporting chapters (like a "Director's Commentary" section) may be in stereo or mono. For these programs, the Dolby Digital indicator may not light up, even though the sound will be properly reproduced by Creative Inspire GD580.
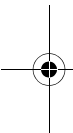
Dolby Pro Logic II

Dolby Pro Logic II is an advanced matrix decoder that creates five full-bandwidth output channels (Left, Center, Right, Left Surround, Right Surround) from any stereo program material, whether or not it has been specifically Dolby Surround encoded. This is done using an advanced, high-purity matrix surround decoder that extracts the spatial properties of the original recording without adding any new sounds or tonal colourations.

Movie Mode

The Movie mode is for use with stereo television shows and all programs encoded in Dolby Surround. The result is enhanced directional sound coming from all the speakers that simulates discrete 5.1-channel sound.

Music Mode

The Music mode is for use with any stereo music recordings, and provides a wide and deep audio environment.

DTS Digital Surround

DTS Digital Surround is a discrete 5.1 channel digital audio format that delivers five discrete full-range channels (left, center, right, left surround and right surround) plus a separate Low frequency Effects (LFE) channel.
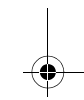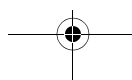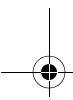
General Specifications

B

Creative Inspire GD580

These specifications apply to Creative Inspire GD580 operating from the supplied 12 V AC power adapter.

Dual outputs:
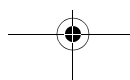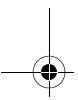
❑ 12 V AC, 4.2 A

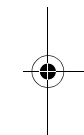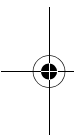❑ 12 V AC, 700 mA

Satellite power

6 watts RMS per channel (4 channels)

Center Satellite power

6 watts RMS

Subwoofer power

17 watts RMS